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TESTIMONY OF THE

CONNECTICUT COALITION OF PROPERTY OWNERS
CONNECTICUT MESSENGER COURIER ASSOCIATION
GREATER DANBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LUMBER DEALERS' ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT
MILFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE'S LABOR COMMITTEE
2:00 PM, THURSDAY, January 30, 2013
ROOM 1D, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Good morning. My name is Marshall R. Collins. I am appearing in my capacity as Counsel for Government Relations for the aforementioned seven organizations (the "Organizations"). Collectively they represent more than 3,500 employers of approximately 125,000 men and women in Connecticut. **The Organizations cannot support SB 387 AA Increasing The Minimum Fair Wage.**

The proposal would increase Connecticut's current minimum wage which is already one of the highest in the nation during a time of high unemployment. Increasing the minimum wage would not create one job.

Furthermore, the increase would be inflationary and increase the already high costs of living and doing business in Connecticut. Higher costs are always passed on wherever possible. Thus increasing the minimum wage only exacerbates the economic distress of both employers and those low income earners. Simultaneously costing Connecticut jobs and increasing the cost of living is not in the public interest. The proposal should be rejected.

And least persuasive is the argument that the Minimum Wage has not increased in five years. This Committee is well aware that the Prevailing Wage has not increased in nearly 20 years. Time does not seem to demand indexing.

This completes my testimony. Thank you for your consideration.